Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 27, beginning with line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

> All forward and reverse oligonucleotide primers incorporated appropriate restriction enzyme sites to facilitate cloning into the pcDNA3.1 MCS region. All forward primers were also designed to include the conserved Kozak nucleotide sequence 5'-gccacc-3' immediately upstream of an 'atg' translation initiation codon in frame with the target gene insert. The Kozak sequence facilitates the recognition of initiator sequences by eukaryotic ribosomes. Typically, a forward primer incorporating a BamH1 restriction enzyme site the primer would begin with the sequence 5'-cgggatccgccaccatg-3' **(SEQ ID NO: 260)**, followed by a sequence homologous to the 5' end of that part of a gene being amplified. All reverse primers incorporated a Not I restriction enzyme site sequence 5' - ttgcggccgc-3' **(SEQ ID NO: 261)**. All gene-specific forward and reverse primers were designed with compatible melting temperatures to facilitate their amplification.

Please replace Appendices I and II on pages 56-59 with the following amended Appendices I and II:

APPENDIX I

ID-65

Forward Primer

5' – cggatccgccaccatgGCGGATCAAACTACATCGGTTC - 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 262)**

Reverse Primer

5' - ttgcggccgcGTTGGGATAACTAGTCGGTTTAGTCG **(SEQ ID NO: 263)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 1541bp

Incorporating 1515bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 505 amino acids of the putative mature protein.

Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 60°C

Sequence predicted to encode a signal peptide was omitted from amplified product

ID-66

Forward Primer

5' – cggatccgccaccatgAATCTTTATTTCCATAGTACTCCCTTGC - 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 264)**

Reverse Primer

5' – ttgcggccgcAAAATGATCAGTTTGAGGGTAAAAGAG - 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 265)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 767bp

Incorporating 747bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 247 amino acids of the putative mature protein.

Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 60°C

Sequence predicted to encode a signal peptide was omitted from amplified product

APPENDIX II

ID-65

Forward Primer

5' – catgccatgGCGGATCAAACTACATCGGTTC - 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 266)**

Reverse Primer

5' - ttgcggccgcGTTGGGATAACTAGTCGGTTTAGTCG **(SEQ ID NO: 263)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 1534bp
Incorporating 1515bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 505 amino acids of the putative mature protein.
Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 60°C

ID-83
Forward Primer
5' – catgccatggcaAAAATAGTAGTACCAGTAATGCCTC – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 267)**
ReversePrimer
5' – ttgcggccgcCTCTGAAATAGTAATTTGTCCG – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 268)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 626bp
Incorporating 624bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 208 amino acids of the putative mature protein.
Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 52°C

ID-89
Forward Primer
5' – catgccatgggaAAGAAAGCAAATAATGTCAGTCC – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 269)**
Reverse Primer
5' – ttgcggccgcATTGGGTGTAAGCATTTTTTC –3' **(SEQ ID NO: 270)**
Length (including restriction sites) = 990bp
Incorporating 969bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 323 amino acids of the putative mature protein.
Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 54°C

ID-93

Forward Primer

5' – catgccatgggaACTGAGAACTGGTTACATACTAAAG – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 271)**

ReversePrimer

5' – ttgcggccgcATTAGCTTTTTCAACAATTTCTC – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 272)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 759bp

Incorporating 744bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 248 amino acids of the putative mature protein.

Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 51°C

ID-96

Forward Primer

5' – ctagctagccgATGTTTGCGTGGGAAAG – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 273)**

ReversePrimer

5' – ttgcggccgcATAAGATTTAACAATACCAAGTAATATAGC – 3' **(SEQ ID NO: 274)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 944bp

Incorporating 921bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 307 amino acids of the putative mature protein.

Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 53°C

rib (control)

Forward primer

5' - ggggtaccggccaccATGGCTGAAGTAATTTCAGGAAGT -3' **(SEQ ID NO: 275)**

Reverse primer

5' - cggaattccgTTAATCCTCTTTTTTTCTTAGAAACAGAT -**3' (SEQ ID NO: 276)**

Length (including restriction sites) = 3559bp

Incorporating 3531bp of gene-specific sequence encoding 1177 amino acids of the mature protein.

Annealing temperature for PCR amplification = 55°C